

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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November 18, 2015

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From:

Sachi A. Hamai

Chief Executive Officer

STATUS UPDATE ON THE COUNTY'S PAY FOR SUCCESS INITIATIVE

On August 11, 2015, the Board approved the Just in Reach (JIR) program as Los Angeles County's first Pay for Success (PFS) initiative and directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and PFS work group to move forward with: 1) selecting an evaluator, project manager, and service provider to implement the project; 2) apply for AB 1837 and other federal/state funding opportunities to support the project and provide potential success payments for the JIR program; and 3) identify other funding partners. This status update provides the project's progress to date.

A few weeks following, on September 1, 2015, the Board voted on key changes to improve access to treatment services for inmates who have mental illness, substance abuse issues, and other illnesses. As a result of these changes, the Board created a new Office of Diversion and Re-entry, to be part of the County's Department of Health Services (DHS). Through the new office, the County is committed to the expansion of mental health treatment, including treatment for co-occurring disorders; expansion of substance abuse treatment services, and housing services enhancements (both permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing).

After the Board's selection of a PFS project, staff from the CEO, County Counsel, and Third Sector Capital Partners met with the Sheriff's Department to discuss how the JIR program could be scaled under the PFS model to reduce recidivism of repeat, homeless offenders with one or more medical or behavioral health condition. During these initial conversations, the Sheriff's Department recognized the value in partnering with the Housing for Health (HFH) Division, at DHS, in order to best meet the housing needs of the target population. Moreover, with the upcoming Office of Diversion and Re-entry,

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DHS also acknowledged the mutual benefit in collaborating with the Sheriff's Department to promote housing stability for the same population that will be the focus for the new office. Both departments agreed to work together to design an intervention model that integrates both the JIR and HFH components.

Work Group Tasks and Next Steps

Since October 2015, the CEO, County Counsel, and Third Sector Capital Partners have been meeting weekly with the Sheriff's Department and DHS. The team has reviewed the PFS concept and characteristics of the target population. Currently, the work group is reviewing data systems that can identify individuals who meet selection criteria; and designing an intervention model to integrate both the JIR and HFH evidence-based models.

Once the work group maps the detailed intervention process, they will further refine the roles of the service provider and project manager. The team will work to procure an evaluator, service provider, and project manager (fiscal sponsor). In addition, the team plans to apply for relevant State and federal funding opportunities and identify other funding partners. Specifically, the AB 1837 and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) PFS applications are both due in February 2016.

We will provide the Board with a written update on our progress in February 2016. If you have questions, or need additional information, please contact Cheri Thomas at cthomas@ceo.lacounty.gov or at (213) 974-4603.

SAH:JJ:CT VD:km

c: Sheriff's Department Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Health Services